

Change "said" to "an" on line 5 of claim 31.

Add "an" before "encrypted" on line 14 of claim 31.

Delete "said" before "authentication" on line 16 of claim 31.

Add "said" before "value" on line 16 of claim 31.

Add "said" before "received" on line ¹⁸~~16~~ of claim 31.

Add "said" before "generated" on line ¹⁹~~17~~ of claim 31.

Add "said" before "user" on line 4 of claim 32.

Add "said" before "received" on line 9 of claim 32.

Add "said" before "generated" on line 10 of claim 32.

Change "authentication process" to "said authentication process" on line ⁵~~6~~ of claim 33.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1, 2, 7, 10-13, 16-26, 31-33 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claimed invention generally concerns user authentication wherein the authentication side transmits a random number to the user. The user hashes an authentication value with a first one-way hash function and encrypts the hash. The user then concatenates the encrypted hash with the received random number and hashes the concatenation with a second one-way hash function to be transmitted to the authentication side along with the encrypted hash. The authentication side then decrypts the received hash, concatenates the decrypted hash with the random number that was previously transmitted to the user in question, hashes the concatenation with the second one-way hash function, and compares the hashed concatenation with the hashed concatenation received